

REMARKS

Applicants have revised the specification and abstract and amended the claims to eliminate improper multiple dependency and non-statutory claims and to improve the claim language. No new matter has been added, nor has the claim scope been narrowed by these amendments. Applicants also attach a copy of the application as amended in clean form; this amended application contains no new matter.

Applicants advise the Examiner that this application is related to commonly assigned Serial No. 10/588,281, filed concurrently herewith.

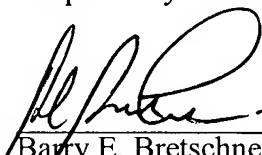
Early action allowing claims 1-16, 18-20 and 25-27 is solicited.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 424662013300.

Respectfully submitted,

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